

GENESEE COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 14, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Solid Waste Management Planning Committee met at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, in the Board of Commissioners Conference Room, 1101 Beach Street, Room 301, Flint, Michigan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John O'Brien called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

II. WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

All members introduced themselves. **Present:** John O'Brien, Heather Griffin, Kyle Burnash, Derek Bradshaw, Tim Church, Mike Csapo, Amy Freeman, Chad Young and Darren Bagley

Absent/Excused: Derek Neal, DJ Bourdow and Nancy Edwards

Others present: Sheila Taylor, Cody Roblyer, Gwynneth Coselman, Angela Warren, and Renate Soto

III. Approval of December 13, 2023, Minutes ***

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Tim Church, **Seconded by** Heather Griffin to approve the December 13, 2023 Minutes.

Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment Period

None

V. Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment Draft ***

Cody Roblyer gave a brief overview of the Solid Waste Management Plan and explained that the Plan includes the following components:

- Executive Summary
- The Genesee County Solid Waste Plan which includes major points of the Technical Reports
- Technical Report 1 - Population Demographics, Waste Import and Export Data, and Recycling Participation
- Technical Report 2 - Public Input Surveys, Deficiencies, and Facility Descriptions
- Technical Report 3 - Goals and Objectives
- Technical Report 4 - Selected Solid Waste System, Implementation Strategies, and Solid Waste Management Components.

Mr. Roblyer gave brief overviews of the county background, recycling participation, community surveys that were conducted to gather information, waste services that are provided by the County municipalities and recycling programs that are offered by the County. Gwynn Coselman summarized the waste management needs of the County, deficiencies, goals and objectives and implementation strategies. She further went on to explain the highlights of the selected system and gave a brief solid waste facilities overview. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Action: Approve, **Moved by** Amy Freeman, **Seconded by** Darren Bagley to approve the Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment Draft and begin the required 90-day public comment period.

VI. Other Business

a) Next Steps

Gwynn Coselman gave an overview of the update to Part 115 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, which includes eight bills that were signed by the Governor in December 2022. The bill package contains various changes to Solid Waste Materials Management in Michigan such as setting benchmark recycling standards, ensuring adequate local capacity for managing materials, and specifying funding mechanisms that can be used to support materials management. Staff will focus primarily on learning more about the bill related to materials management planning. This bill will shift planning efforts from establishing solid waste disposal capacity to determining ways to divert materials through recycling and composting. Staff has been in contact with EGLE representatives, who have indicated that staff should proceed with our current Plan amendment, as Part 115 does not take effect until the end of next month and will take time to implement changes.

Ms. Coselman reviewed the next steps involved in the SWMP (Solid Waste Management Plan) including:

- a 90-day public comment period starting March 1, 2023 through May 30, 2023
- holding a public hearing on April 5, 2023
- hosting 3 different open houses at various locations in April 2023
- final revisions will be made and a draft plan will be presented to the Committee at the next meeting in June 2023
- staff will request approval from the Board of Commissioners in July 2023
- the Plan will be submitted to all local units of government for approval in August 2023
- the Draft Plan will be submitted to EGLE in December 2023 for a 6-month review.

Discussion ensued.

b) Committee Member Updates

Darren Bagley provided information regarding Flint River Environmental Leaders, a group of youth from the Flint River Watershed, who have been tasked to pick an environmental issue to research and present a public action project. They have chosen recycling and littering with the goal being to improve recycling education and litter prevention in the County. Mr. Bagley inquired about the youth group having some space at the Solid Waste Plan open house in Montrose to give a formal presentation and provide some comment to the Plan.

Chad Young remarked about the inclusion of multi-family recycling in the Solid Waste Plan.

Mike Csapo stated that this SWMPC planning process has been very good and complimented staff on putting the Plan together.

Amy Freeman stated that she just got back from a composting conference in California and is very optimistic for changes in the future.

Tim Church stated that he represents GFL as a board member on the Michigan Waste and Recycling Association, who has been working closely with EGLE on Part 115 analysis. EGLE has given the Association the opportunity to ask questions regarding Part 115 changes. He would like to extend to the Committee, if they have any questions or comments, he would be happy to present them to EGLE.

X. Adjournment

John O'Brien adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.